

Message Text

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62

ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ISO-00 SCA-01 L-03 INR-10 CIAE-00 NSAE-00

SY-10 JUSE-00 H-03 /036 W

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R 161400Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5704

C O N F I D E N T I A L TANANARIVE 1429

E. O. 11652: DECON 16OCT74

TAGS: CASC, MA, US

SUBJ: W/W REPPAS

REF: TANANARIVE 1372

FOR: SCS

1. CONSOFF VISITED REPPAS IN PRISON OCT 16. REPPAS APPEARED IN UNUSUALLY GOOD SPIRITS, APPARENTLY BUOYED BY VISIT OF LAWYER RAVONY OCT 15. LAWYER HAD ANNOUNCED NUMBER OF STEPS WHICH HE HAS TAKEN OR WILL BE TAKING SOON. HEARINGS BEFORE EXAMINING MAGISTRATE HAD FINALLY ENDED ACCORDING TO RAVONY, AND HE PLANNED IMMEDIATELY TO FILE AGAIN FOR "LIBERTE PROVISOIRE" AND "LIBERTE NON LIEU". NEITHER OF THESE STEPS WOULD BE SUCCESSFUL, RAVONY TOLD REPPAS AFTER DISCUSSING MATTER WITH EXAMINING MAGISTRATE. THEY WOULD, HOWEVER, STALL SETTING ANY POSSIBLE TRIAL DATE UNTIL AFTER ELECTIONS OCT 21. AFTER ELECTIONS, RAVONY FEELS THERE WOULD BE "RIGHT ATMOSPHERE" TO MOVE TRIAL TO MONRANDAVA, POLITICAL POWER BASE OF REPPAS' FRIEND AND POLITICAL FIGURE ANDRE RESAMPA. REPPAS STATED RAVONY ALLEGED EXAMINING MAGISTRATE FELT THAT A FAIR NON-POLITICAL TRIAL IN TANANARIVE WAS IMPOSSIBLE. POLITICAL PRESSURES, MAGISTRATE REPORTEDLY SAID, HAD ALREADY INTERFERED WITH HIS ISSUING FINAL DECISION. ONLY LEGAL STEP REPPAS KNEW TO BE SCHEDULED WAS A HEARING CONCERNING CIVIL CARE OCT 18. THIS ALSO RAVONY PLANNED TO BLOCK.

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2. COMMENTS: MUCH OF ABOVE CONFLICTS WITH INFORMATION RECEIVED

FROM MFA DIRECTOR EARLIER THIS MONTH (REFTEL PARA 3). RAVONY IS KNOWN TO EMBASSY AS SHREWD LAWYER, AND, ALTHOUGH ABOVE MENTIONED TACTICS SEEM AWKWARD, THEY CERTAINLY ARE POSSIBLE. IT SHOULD ALSO BE KEPT IN MIND THAT REPPAS HAS NOT ALWAYS REPORTED LAWYER'S PLANS ACCURATELY.
MATHERON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973TANANA01429
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS MATHERON
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: TANANARIVE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731028/aaaaauli.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION SCS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: TANANARIVE 1372
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27-Dec-2001 by elbezefj>; APPROVED <30-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: W/W REPPAS
TAGS: CASC, MA, US, (REPPAS, GEORGE), (RESAMPA, ANDRE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005